

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

April 11, 2016

at the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room B,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Kenneth Findlay, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor, Lauren Plews

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- Press Release, Cranston Public Library, 'Cranston Public Library Receives National LibraryAware Community Award'
- 2015 By the Numbers, Rhode Island Public Library Usage Handout
- Letter of Support for nomination of Dr. Carla Hayden to be Librarian of Congress
- Continuing Education Handout, Strategic Planning for Public Libraries, April 27, 2016, and Your Community by the Numbers: Introduction to the American FactFinder, May 12, 2016

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the March 21, 2016 meeting

The meeting minutes were approved with non-substantive changes.

Abstaining from the Approval of the March 21, 2016, meeting minutes: Monica Nazareth-Dzialo

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Norris

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Cranston Public Library

Mr. Viall extended his congratulations to Mr. Garcia for the Cranston Public Library's receipt of the 2016 LibraryAware Community Award. The national award is given by *Library Journal* to recognize libraries that engage with their communities to improve lives, and create life-long learners and library users. A plaque commemorating the award will be presented to Mr. Garcia and Cranston Mayor Fung at a reception at Cranston Public Library on June 3, 2016. Mr. Garcia will extend invitations to the reception to board members.

B. Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) Annual Meeting

The COLA Annual Meeting will be held on April 12, 2016, at 5 p.m., in the Governor's State Room at the State House. Information about the event is located on the COLA Website, www.colari.org.

C. Ethics Commission Financial Disclosure

The RI Ethics Commissions requires a financial disclosure from the members of the LBRI. All LBRI members will receive a request that will be due by mid-April. The form may also be completed online at <http://www.ethics.ri.gov/disclosure/>.

D. National Library Week/RI Library Day

National Library Week is April 10-16, sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA). Rhode Island celebrates Library Day on April 16, 2016.

E. Legislative Testimony by LBRI members

Mr. Viall and other LBRI members offered testimony in support of returning state grant-in-aid to 25% of municipal funding for public libraries at the hearing for the Dept. of Administration budget on March 22.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. National Library Week

There are many activities taking place around the state during national library week:

1. RI Library Day is April 16, 2016; many public libraries are holding special events. Ms. Mellor encouraged LBRI members to visit their local library on RI Library Day. Ms. Humphrey added that Governor Gina Raimondo has proclaimed April as School Library Month. School Librarians of Rhode Island (SLRI) work diligently to raise the profile of school libraries to bring awareness to the work facilitated in schools by school librarians. Ms. Mellor noted the interconnected relationship between school, public and academic libraries, and the continuum of information literacy education that enables students and patrons to find the information they need in all phases of their education and life.
2. COLA Annual Meeting is on April 12 at the State House. The keynote speaker for the event will be the Artistic Director of the Gamm Theatre, Mr. Tony Estrella. The COLA Sweetheart of the Year is Dr. Cheryl McCarthy, a longstanding educator at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS) at the University of Rhode Island (URI). Dr. McCarthy has trained the majority of school librarians in Rhode Island. GSLIS will hold their annual gathering on Friday, April 15.
3. OLIS will convene a Library Directors' Meeting on Thursday, April 14, at Cranston Public Library. Speakers include HealthSource RI and The Point, a resource of 2-1-1. Healthsource RI facilitates the Affordable Care Act in Rhode Island. Ms. Amedeo assisted Ms. Mellor with securing a speaker from The Point and described it as a statewide resource network that provides information, referrals, and long-term care

options to seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers. The Point assists people by connecting them with the resources that fit their needs.

B. OLIS Office Relocation

OLIS will soon be relocated to a new location within the Department of Administration building, bringing all staff together in one space.

C. Library Construction Projects

OLIS has received an application from Barrington Public Library for a substantial renovation to the library.

D. Continuing Education(CE) Programming (Ms. DiMichele)

Ms. DiMichele reported on upcoming CE programs and distributed a handout for review. OLIS provides two sessions of CE programming each year for the library community, including trustees. The first session runs from September through early February, and the second session runs from March through July.

Two CE programs scheduled for the next month are designed to assist libraries with creating strategic plans. The Public Library Standards include a requirement for public libraries to have a strategic plan, which should be based on an assessment of community needs. Additionally, the strategic plan must be reviewed annually. The first program, on April 27, will be at Barrington Public Library entitled 'Strategic Planning for Public Libraries'. The trainer will be Pat Wagner.

The second program will be at East Greenwich Free Library on May 12. The program, 'Your Community by the Numbers: Introduction to the American FactFinder,' will assist libraries with using census data. The speaker will be Ana Maria Garcia, US Census Bureau Data Dissemination Specialist.

E. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Convening (Ms. DiMichele)

Ms. Mellor and Ms. DiMichele will attend an IMLS convening in Louisville, KY, on April 19-20, for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Coordinators, and other state agency personnel for the Grants to States program. The new state program report platform will be discussed along with agency Five-Year Plan evaluations.

F. Resource Sharing Requirement of the Library of Rhode Island Standards (LORI)

OLIS has received reports of alleged noncompliance through the 'Report of Alleged Non-Compliance with LORI Standards' form on the OLIS website. The reports are being investigated at this time. The requirement for sharing library resources is also included in the Minimum Standards & Regulations for RI Public Libraries, Item 6
<http://www.olis.ri.gov/pubs/plstandards/standards.php>.

The items allegedly not being shared are DVD collections, and OLIS is working with the libraries on compliance. In accordance with the LORI Standards, the Chief of Library Services may issue a waiver to a library if warranted; however, if a waiver is not granted, the

library will lose resource sharing and other benefits of LORI membership. As part of the process, libraries that disagree with OLIS decisions may appeal them to the LBRI.

G. Massachusetts Delivery Partnership

On April 1, the academic library portion of interstate library delivery with the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) began. Through the partnership, RI libraries and some Massachusetts libraries will be able to borrow materials from each other without paying postage costs. Massachusetts and RI libraries use the same vendor for delivery, which makes this process much more cost effective than it would have been in the past.

Participating public libraries will begin interstate delivery next week. The 20 public libraries invited to participate in the pilot program each lend 50 or more items per year to out-of-state libraries. Ms. Mellor extended thanks to the MLS for paying the cost of the stop for the interlibrary service and to HELIN for funding the delivery route to Wheaton College, which helps make this possible.

H. OLIS State Data Coordinator/Library Statistics

Ms. Mellor introduced Lauren Plews, the new OLIS State Data Coordinator. Ms. Plews gave a presentation on data highlights from the Public Library Annual Report. Each year, public libraries must complete an annual report that includes information specific to the operation of public libraries.

Ms. Plews reported on the breakdown of the data based on specific topics and categories. The information presented is located on the OLIS website <http://www.olis.ri.gov/pubs/compstats/index.php>. The information is presented as reported by libraries and sorted into categories for download and review. Ms. Plews provided a handout that summarized key points taken from the 2015 data reported by public libraries. Data points included library usage, program attendance, reference transactions, circulation, and internet usage.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

i. Updates, Federal & State Legislation

Mr. Garcia reported on the hearing for the Department of Administration (DOA) Budget held on March 22 by the RI House Finance Committee. Mr. Viall noted that the OLIS budget, along with state grant-in-aid (GIA) funding for public libraries, is part of the DOA budget. Several finance committee members spoke in support of library funding following presentation of the DOA budget.

ii. Restoration of the 25% funding of Grant-in-Aid

Mr. Viall reported that the difference between the amount proposed for GIA in the Governor's 2017 Budget and the 25% amount sought is \$1.4 million. The DOA budget would require an increase in this amount to fund GIA funding at 25%.

B. Library Construction Regulations Review

The Library Construction Regulations Review Committee met on March 10, and will meet again on April 21. The committee is making good progress with the regulations review.

C. State Aid Formula Review Committee

The State Aid Formula Review Committee will hold their first meeting in May. The committee has been unable to meet because of member's time constraints.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Garcia

Mr. Garcia reported that William Hall Library has added another Citizenship Class because of high demand. The class begins on April 24 and runs for twenty weeks.

In response to Mr. Garcia's question, Ms. Mellor stated that the data for citizenship classes, and other programming, will be considered as additional reporting data for the Annual Report for Public Libraries.

Mr. Garcia reported that Joan Gillespie, the Executive Director of Ocean State Libraries (OSL), will be retiring at the end of May 2016. A nationwide search is underway to fill the position; Assistant Director Lisa Sallee will be appointed Interim Director until the position is filled.

B. Ms. Feldman

Ms. Feldman reported on the activities of small libraries for Library Day on April 16. Six of the twenty-four small libraries have scheduled specific activities. Libraries will waive fines for patrons on Library Day.

C. Ms. Humphrey

Ms. Humphrey reported that the School Librarians of Rhode Island (SLRI) will hold their annual conference on May 14 at URI. The library advocacy group has been hard at work to present the work done by school librarians to the new education commissioner. Ms. Mellor commended the work of the SLRI advocacy group and underscored the value of the data they have gathered and presented on school libraries. This information will be linked on the OLIS website.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Library Services Strategic Plan: Environmental Scan

OLIS is working on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to assist in the environmental scan and strategic plan.

B. AskRI Services

A Request for Information (RFI) is being put together by OLIS to solicit proposals from libraries interested in hosting the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC).

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Letter to Support the Nomination of Dr. Carla Hayden as Librarian of Congress

Ms. Reeves reviewed the letter that supports the nomination of Dr. Carla Hayden for Librarian of Congress which, with the Board's approval, will be submitted to the U.S. Senate Committee reviewing Dr. Hayden's nomination by President Obama.

The LBRI approved the submission of a letter supporting the nomination of Dr. Carla Hayden for Librarian of Congress to the US Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

Moved by: Mr. Viall

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for May 16, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Sloan